Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims replaces and supersedes all previous listings of claims.

1.- (Currently Amended) An apparatus for selectively shrinking a film wrapped around a product ~~(P)~~, that comprises a frame ~~(9)~~, a driven conveyor ~~(1)~~, mounted on said frame ~~(9)~~, on which a plurality of products ~~(P)~~ are sequentially transported, a heat source ~~(5)~~ disposed underneath the conveyor ~~(1)~~ and which generates a hot fluid, and a plurality of nozzles ~~(5.1)~~ oriented towards the bottom of said conveyor ~~(1)~~, with the hot fluid being conveyed to said nozzles ~~(5.1)~~, wherein the heat source ~~(5)~~ and the nozzles ~~(5.1)~~ are fixed, and the apparatus also comprises closing means through which the hot fluid is allowed to pass to the front and rear ends of each product ~~(P)~~ only.

2.- (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the closing means comprise moving means ~~(5.2)~~ on each of the nozzles ~~(5.1)~~, said moving means ~~(5.2)~~ pivoting to enable or prevent the passage of hot fluid in relation to an axis ~~(5.5)~~ parallel to the plane of the conveyor ~~(1)~~.

3.- (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the moving means ~~(5.2)~~ comprise a conduit ~~(5.4)~~ that is aligned with the outlet conduit on each nozzle ~~(5.1)~~ to allow the passage of hot fluid.

4.- (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said apparatus further comprises for each nozzle ~~(5.1)~~, an arm ~~(5.3)~~ connected to the moving means ~~(5.2)~~, said arms ~~(5.3)~~ moving the corresponding moving means ~~(5.2)~~ in relation to the axis ~~(5.5)~~.

5.- (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the closing means comprise a plurality of shutters ~~(10)~~ disposed transversely on the conveyor ~~(1)~~, and means ~~(10.1)~~ for selectively removing said shutters ~~(10)~~ from the conveyor ~~(1)~~ to allow the passage of hot fluid from the nozzles ~~(5.1)~~ to the front and rear transverse ends of each product ~~(P)~~.

6.- (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the closing means

comprise a plate ~~(11)~~ between the heat source ~~(5)~~ and the nozzles ~~(5.1)~~, the plate ~~(11)~~ being able to move transversely in relation to the heat source ~~(5)~~ and the nozzles ~~(5.1)~~, and said plate ~~(11)~~ comprising at least one orifice ~~(12)~~, so that the passage of the hot fluid is enabled aligning the orifice ~~(12)~~ selectively with each nozzle ~~(5.1)~~.